

**American Dahlia Society
Minutes – Board Meeting
June 9 & 11, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 pm CDT by President Brad Freeman. Brad thanked the Colorado Dahlia Society for hosting the spring board and planning meeting this year. Introductions were made around the room.

Present

Board members present were Brad Freeman, Mark Oldenkamp, Tony Evangelista, Terry Schroeder, Charles Miehm, Harry Rissetto, Jerry Landerholm, Ron Miner, Marcie Holt, Alli Richards, Dan Baulig, Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook, Alan Fisher, Mel Epstein, Bob Schroeder, Elva Sellens, Rosemary Freeman, Larry Smith, Sharon Swaney, and guests, Rob Swaney, Marion Landerholm, Philip Duclos, Robin Holt, Jennifer Carpenter, Dianne Reilan, Calvin Cook, Linda Quade, John Quade, Janet Cook, Sherry Perry.

Minutes

Minutes from the March 26, 2023, meeting were sent to board members. **Charles Miehm moved, and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to approve as corrected. The motion carried.** Corrections were the correct treasurer's report, and suggested changes to wording to make things clearer in the ADS store manager, classification, and editor reports.

Minutes were distributed from the executive committee meeting on May 21. There was no action taken, primarily a discussion of the spring planning meeting and the open board positions.

All minutes are available on the website under Executive Committee. The headings indicate either Board/Annual meeting or Executive Committee minutes.

Remembrances

Brad asked for a moment of remembrance for those who are having significant health issues or have passed away. A moment of silence was held for the following members who have recently passed away:

Doug McNabb – Vancouver Dahlia Society

Rick and Cindy Sprague – Colorado Dahlia Society members

OFFICERS REPORTS

President

Brad Freeman reported the June *Bulletin* is now available to ADS members either in print or digital format. The June *Bulletin* is packed with informative articles and information related to dahlias and dahlia organizations. The layout and color photographs make it an outstanding publication. He wants to personally thank both Linda Holmes-Cook, *Bulletin* Editor, and Colin Walker, *Bulletin* Consultant, for their efforts to make the June *Bulletin* one of the best.

The Executive Committee met on May 21, 2023; the minutes of the meeting were sent to the Board and are available on the ADS website. The primary focus of the meeting was the agenda for the upcoming Board meeting in Brighton, Colorado, and the open Board positions.

Following the Executive Committee meeting a message was sent to all ADS members regarding the open Board positions. The three Board positions are:

- National Show
- Bulletin Advertising Manager
- New Society Coordinator

In addition to the open Board positions, an author is needed for the monthly newsletter *Dahlia Talk*. There is interest in the open positions, except for the chair of the National Show committee. I will be working with others on the Board to fill the open positions.

The Board has accomplished much but more challenges lie ahead including:

Strategic Planning - the Board should be setting goals and priorities for the ADS to work on over the next five to ten years. With a strategic plan in place the Board can focus on obtaining the resources, both time and money, to accomplish the goals. Fund raising, as needed, will be easier with a defined set of objectives.

Leadership Succession - The current leadership of the ADS needs to be thinking about who will be leading the ADS in future. A new president will be elected in 2024 which creates an opportunity for others to step into leadership roles and prepare to be a future president. Leadership succession is a crucial decision for the ADS which needs careful deliberation and input by everyone on the Board.

National Show - For the next three years there will be an annual National Show, however none are scheduled after 2025. A person is needed to lead the National Show committee. They should be willing to actively recruit dahlia organizations to host the National Shows and assist them as needed. If the tradition of an annual National Show is to continue a chair of the National Show committee is needed.

The Board meeting and planning session in Brighton, Colorado on June 9 – 11, 2023 is an opportunity for the ADS leaders, members, and guests to have meaningful discussions about the future of the ADS. By respectfully sharing our ideas and working together we can make ADS an organization that people want to be part of.

Treasurer

Charles Miehme reported that we are doing much more than we were at the first of the year. As anticipated, the cash flow has improved. So far this year, we are running with an operating surplus of \$28,000. The Genome fund is in a separate savings account with a current balance of \$126,900. As of this time, the total ADS funds are \$271,000. We will discuss putting some funds back into the money market account as we needed to pull some out at the end of 2022. **Harry Rissetto moved, and Alan Fisher seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to review. The motion passed.** There was a question about the cost of the *Bulletin*. The cost in June was \$7,200 for printing, \$2,000 for set up and \$970.00 for postage.

First Vice President

Mark Oldenkamp reports spring has come and it is nearly summer. He is encouraged by the ADS membership report and the related financial results we are seeing. He is encouraged by the team spirit of our leaders and by those who find new ways to volunteer. He is AMAZED with the creative fundraising for the Genome fund. He is encouraged by the continued praise for the online judges training modules and for each edition of the *Bulletin* based on the new format. Thanks to the many contributors.

The executive committee continues to work together between regular board meetings. He is appreciative of those who have served in various work area roles for ADS efforts and looks forward to finding new volunteers to fill the vacant leadership positions.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Portland, Oregon for the National Show. If you have not gotten your reservations in, please help our registrar by getting it in soon. There are some wonderful things planned.

Second Vice President

Tony Evangelista reports it's so nice to see our society making such bold changes on sound financial footing. Members have positively received the new Bulletin format. The judging modules are an extremely useful tool and are being used as a highly effective adjunct to the newly revised *Guide to Judging Dahlias*. The genome and virus research continue to lay the foundation of knowledge about our favorite flower. It's genuinely exciting to watch our understanding expand. None of this would be possible without the wonderful selfless volunteers not only at the national level but also at the local society level. We are working well together and hopefully this march forward continues. Please get to know as many fellow members as you can; we are the nicest people in the world.

Third Vice President

Brad received a call from Ken Jensen who reported he was not able to make the meeting this year.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

North Atlantic Conference

Robert Fackovec reports the societies in our conference have been busy with their spring tuber sales. These are important fundraisers for our clubs; it is hoped they are all successful. Our tubers have been planted and we are looking forward to pleasant weather and a great dahlia season. The best to all.

Pacific Northwest Conference

Mark Oldenkamp reports spring was cool, wet, and summer has come earlier. The dahlia enthusiasm has created new opportunities for our societies especially in meeting demand for tubers. More folks seem to be making rooted cuttings which is providing some help to meet demand. Membership is growing in some societies. The use of online membership payments has simplified the tracking of the Portland membership roster and other societies are encouraged to be open to this approach.

PNDC has onboarded a new volunteer for the newsletter position; thank you Mary Nelson. Our annual meeting will be held in September. For the Oregon societies there is

no plan for formal judges' training this year, but we do encourage the use of the online training modules. The Canby Trial Garden was planted in late May.

The Portland Society seems ready to host the National Show in Portland on August 24-29, 2023. Registration information is available on the Portland Dahlia Society website. Registration fees increase after July 10th. Sponsorships for the extensive cash awards list are encouraged and are visible on the show website. Thank you to those that have already contributed.

<https://www.portlanddahlia.com/welcome>

Southern States Dahlia Conference

Marcie Holt attended the meeting and is looking forward to participating in the planning for the ADS and providing information for the Southern States.

Pacific Southwest Conference

John Morton reports it seems the public is ready to start gardening again as our tuber sales in California have been successful. All societies reported that their sales have recovered from pre-Covid times.

All societies have their shows booked and ready to go except for the San Leandro Society which has a place and date but is actively looking for a venue.

A memorial service was held for Ken Masurat who passed away a few months ago. Members of local societies, family and friends joined in talking about his skiing and his giant dahlias.

After several years of little rain, we had flooding this last winter and the spring is plain cold. Anytime dahlia folk get together, you hear talk of how slow their gardens are growing.

Many from the conference are looking forward to the National Show in Portland and to seeing all our friends there.

Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

Alli Richards reports the Federation of Northwest Dahlia growers is in between their workshops currently. This is great since this year we are having a nice, sunny spring for planting. Our upcoming events are our July judging workshops as well as the summer workshop. Our judging trainers met and have planned out a great training day for all levels of judges.

Our first show of the season is going to be the Kitsap County Dahlia Society's 100-year celebration. The theme is High Tea in 1923. They are having special classes to celebrate the occasion. The rest of the clubs are having their shows with a small date change to not conflict with the ADS national show in Portland, OR. We are so excited to get back to the shows and our dahlia friends.

Have a great growing and showing season.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADS Store

Dan Baulig reports store sales continue to be strong. We have sold 165 books for an average of 33 books per month for sales on books other than the CHD's. CHD's sales sold 617 books for an average of 123 per month. This includes new memberships and sales. So far January through May, we have mailed 782 books from the store.

Classification

Karen Sanchez reports she has been working this spring to fill the positions on the committee that were vacated by retiring or resigning members. Our committee members are as follows:

Elva Sellens - OR

Laura Oldenkamp - OR

Eric Toedtli - WA

Richard Parshall - WA

Lou Paradise - CA

Iris Wallace - CA

Charles Craig - WI

Marian Landerholm - IL

Jo Jepsen - MI

Ed Miller - NY

Tony Evangelista - OH

Ken Jensen – AB, CA

John Spangenburg - MD

Karen Sanchez -WA, Chair

Flowers submitted for classification review by June 15th will be sent out to committee members in July, in advance of the show season. Show reporters will be sent the show reporting documents in mid-July.

Cut Flower

Jess Becker reports we have had a productive year so far. Our latest article will be in the next issue of the bulletin on color and cut flowers.

We are planning a hybridizing panel event that we will record and post for people to view. In addition to that we are planning for a few more videos around cut flowers. We will have a display at the national show and a good chunk of the committee will be there to answer questions. We are also working on more articles for the Bulletin and website on cut flowers, including experts in the industry.

Editor

Linda reports we have two issues of the ADS *Bulletin* under our belts, with number 3 coming up in June. Deadline for the June 2023 Bulletin is **April 3**. We have already been collecting quite a bit of content, and club reports have been trickling in over the past week to 10 days. Where we used to be quite creative in order to fill up some issues, we now have an abundance. For space reasons, we are asking club reporters to keep the length of their reports to 250 - 300 words, and to focus on sharing ideas, club projects that others might learn from and news of importance to the club. With three issues a year, it might be time for the board to establish more formal criteria standards for *Bulletin* content, seasonal focus, criteria for articles and what content must be contained in each of the three issues. For example, the timeline for bylaws changes prior to the annual membership meeting would be the June *Bulletin*.

Finance

Harry Risetto reports the unrestricted accounts of the ADS are sufficient to meet its anticipated expenses.

The Genome Project Team has had immense success raising funds for the ADS Genome Project. The dahlia give-away was a creative success. The team has met the annual target for researcher support and for additional research.

Membership appears to be holding steady notwithstanding the changes to the dues structure and the *Bulletin*.

The committee suggests the feasibility of advertising on the website and newsletter.

The committee, based on a cost-benefit analysis, does not recommend inclusion of a contribution envelope in the *Bulletin*.

The current financial report is positive and reassuring.

Garden Dahlias

Alan Fisher reports we have had a request for someone to reintroduce something for border or container dahlias. This request is outside Alan's field of expertise. He would welcome someone to take on this project, which Steve Nowotarski started previously.

Alan is trying to obtain photos of gardens with dahlias this year and promises that if they receive a good one, he will add it to the next dahlia calendar that he puts together.

Garden dahlias can overlap with other committees, and we should consider cross-referencing other committees on the web page. For example, dahlias that are good for cut flowers could also be good for garden use, so someone looking for one might wish to investigate the other. It is useful to think of ways that our committees can be useful to other committees.

He updated some of his writings to keep them current. For example, he updated and sent (to Sharon and Linda) his article on coping with spider mites. (Spider mites reproduce so rapidly that they mutate faster than insects -- thus miticides lose effectiveness rapidly.) This report may be too advanced for general gardeners, but it can be useful to many ADS members

Image Library

Heather Ramsay reports it's the quiet season for the image library, but she is looking forward to this season of blooms!

Insurance

Mel Epstein reports In January 2023 general liability insurance subscriptions for local societies were launched for the renewal date of March 15, 2023, with the following changes from past years.

1. An online payment option with a fillable PDF application was available in the members section of the website.
2. There was no public advertising in the *Bulletin* and the subscription forms were no longer published in the *Bulletin*.
3. Societies were also given the option of downloading a printable PDF application and mailing it with a check.

4. A single memo was sent to the local society presidents and ADS reps via GroupVine in early March 2023 announcing the new program with instructions on how to use the Website Module.

The results were as follows:

1. As of this date 49 societies had renewed their subscriptions to the ADS insurance program. That is basically all societies except two that have used the program in the past.
2. The renewals were filed at a 60% faster rate than last year giving societies more full-year insurance protection for the March 15, 2023 - March 14, 2024, policy period.
3. At least two full pages of the *Bulletin* over two issues were freed up for other use.
4. There were no public announcements that ADS or its societies had liability insurance leading to better risk management.
5. This year fifty-five percent of societies used the online payment and application process creating efficiencies for societies, and ADS with faster cash flow.
6. All the societies except two that filed manually and mailed a check, used the fillable PDF application making the data more legible and more accurate.

There are some lessons to be learned from this exercise on how current ADS members respond to technologic changes. This should be discussed further at a future date.

Judging Accreditation

Bob Schroeder reports the “testing committee” is continuing to meet to produce a standard test for the three levels of judges (candidate, accredited and senior). Once again, using the tests will be the decision of the societies’ judging instructors. It is planned for the tests to be installed on the ADS website for all members to use. To continue with the idea of updating the ADS, the tests may be taken online with immediate score results given. For those who would rather have a hard copy, one will also be available. The candidate test has been completed and will be available for use soon. The Judges training modules have been online for approximately six months and appears to be immensely popular; there have been over two hundred individuals who have completed and registered the program

Membership

Elva Sellens reports most of the renewals are in. There is still one dahlia society that has less than ten ADS members to be a participating society, San Diego Dahlia Society, and they have not yet joined as an affiliated society. She has been keeping Dan Baulig, ADS Store Manager, busy mailing out 2023 classification books to new members and those members renewing after a lapse in their memberships. She estimates 402 books have been mailed to new members and 46 for renewed members. Elva sends out reminders to membership chairs as to the people who have not renewed with the ADS. There was some discussion about providing any surplus *Bulletin* issues to societies to give away to attract new persons to join the ADS.

U.S. Memberships

We have 56 participating societies and 5 affiliated societies. There are 1,541 individual memberships and 459 household membership (x 2 = 918) for a total of 2,459 U.S. members. We have 509 new 2023 memberships – 437 individual and 72 household memberships (x2 = 144) for a total of 581 new members.

Canadian Memberships

Canada has 9 participating societies. There are 143 memberships – 104 individual memberships and 39 household memberships (x 2 = 78) for a total of 182 Canadian members. Of the 143 memberships, 53 are digital memberships. Canada has 26 new memberships - 23 individual memberships and 3 household memberships (x 2 = 6) for a total of 29 new members. A little less than 50% have chosen the digital membership.

Other Foreign Memberships

There are 11 foreign memberships.

National Exhibition

We need to get the vacancy filled for the national exhibition chair.

New Society Coordinator

Rosemary Freeman reports she has been the new society coordinator for 17 years. In that time, she helped and encouraged the formation of 19 new dahlia societies. Of those 19 societies, 4 failed to flourish, or combined with other societies. Over time, she received a hundred or more inquiries, but when a packet of documents and suggestions is sent, most do not respond back. Starting a new society is like opening a new business; It's hard, it takes work, time, people, and commitment.

When we first developed the new society coordinator position, we wanted to take part of the responsibility away from the membership chair as they were too busy dealing with the existing members. We wanted those interested in starting a new society to work with just one individual who could answer all their questions and/or pass them along to others that could answer their questions. In 2007, we produced a small booklet called *Forming a Local Dahlia Society*. That publication is mostly outdated and no longer in print. However, there is a word document available that is sent to those who want to start a new society. Over a period of time, in answer to questions, she was able to produce a few documents that would help with their more in-depth inquiries. In recent years, the most important questions relate to federal, state, city, and county business compliance. Each state has their own set of rules and regulations so will need to contact their governing and banking agencies to start the process to set up your society. She encourages individuals to check out the ADS website, especially the Grow and Know sections on the front page and the information on the Members Only section. Both are full of information.

Rosemary is now retiring from this position. She will leave it to someone who is younger and more able to respond to new inquiries quicker than she has in the recent past. She is proud of all the new societies that have joined the ADS with a little help from her. There is one person who has expressed interest in being the new society coordinator; she is from the Central Coast Dahlia Society in California.

Photography

Debbie Pavich reports the 2022 photo contest winners have been posted to the ADS website and on Instagram, thanks to Sharon and Anna. Files of all the photos were sent to Sharon and Colin. I hope Google drive will make sharing files easier. Larry Smith created videos from the photos; links are on the ADS website. Kitsap County Dahlia Society made the video links available on their Facebook page and their society's shared drive. They received a lot of positive feedback and requests for more.

Contest information for 2023 will be posted to the website by the end of June. She is concerned about AI generated photos will be an issue. She will be sending a few interview questions about dahlia photography to several winning photographers for an article for the website.

Policy

The policy manual was updated in March 2023. The policy manual is on the ADS website. It is a summary of board actions taken and is an ongoing, growing, living document. It allows you to see how things have evolved over time.

Publicity/Public Relations

Larry Smith reports Sharon, ADS webmaster, has posted all of the ADS Photo Contest videos that Larry Smith created. Check them out; they are a fantastic way to promote the dahlia and can be shown at local society meetings as a program offering.

Larry is publicizing the 2023 National Show in Portland and is scheduling a media day two days before the show to invite the local community to the event. Three of Portland's major TV stations will present informational interviews about the show by live newsfeed on the local morning news. He is hoping to get some of the foreign guests there to be interviewed, giving the show some international cred. This is possible because Larry has years of experience networking with the local reporters. He encourages societies to start networking with their local media and is willing to advise society PR reps on how to get that up and running; it pays to put in the effort! Larry created a 2023 National Show promo video, please share it with anyone who might be interested, let's keep encouraging members to register and attend:

<https://youtu.be/imFeRdg7w00>

Members of the ADS Public Relations Committee are Misty Florez of Yankee Dahlia Society and Deborah Dietz of Dahlia Society of California, with Larry as chairperson. If you run across anyone in your part of the world that has talents in this area, please refer them to Larry to be part of this committee.

Research and Education

Virus

Ron Miner reports the virus project has included providing free testing for our dahlia vendors for several years. A relatively small portion of our vendors have chosen to take advantage of that opportunity, but the ones who have participated have made progress in adopting the practices required to reduce the incidence of virus in their gardens. In addition, that investment is beginning to provide dividends in the form of their sharing important field experience with us, including virus data developed at other commercial laboratories and universities as well as their observations on the virus symptoms from their gardens. A few of the vendors have agreed to share all of their observations. In

essence, they are broadening our basis of experience and knowledge on the behavior of viruses. We are in the process of taking advantage of their observations.

We have focused our work on analyses of leaf samples taken from fully mature plants, where it seems most likely that the distribution of virus in the plants would be most uniform. In contrast, some of the data we have in hand from the select vendors is based on tests from young plants and cuttings. It is too early to reach any conclusions from those results but some of the results suggest, 1) that the DMV we 'rediscovered' last summer may truly be an active DNA virus rather than an ineffective segment of DNA integrated in the plant genome, like DMV-10 and 2) that it may be overly optimistic to declare a plant to be clean based on a single sample, particularly in the case of DMV.

The bottom line is that our investment in vendor testing is starting to yield interesting analytical results in addition to cleaner stock. It is also clear that we are low on the learning curve for DMV! The best news is that the Scheetz-Chuey Charitable Foundation has agreed to continue to provide the financial support required to do the analytical work and that Professor Pappu has agreed to continue to do the virus analyses, and provide the guidance required to help us understand the results! Thanks to the virus committee - Ron Miner, Brad Freeman, Nick Weber, Linda Taylor, Hanu Pappu, Prabu Gnanasekaran.

Genome Sequencing

Kristine Albrecht reports

1. The base genome contigs are assembled. We are not going to attempt to assemble a "phased" genome, where we resolve both haplotypes of a chromosome. In our idealized assembly, we will have 4 chromosomes per subgenome, representing the octoploid genome. The initial base contig assembly looks nice so far. Attached is a "bandage" plot where each noodle is a contig representing its length. This is a good sign, that there are many large pieces of contigs, then a clear drop-off of "trash" tiny contigs which are inconsequential to us and don't matter. We will typically ignore them. So, the majority of the genome is in about 150 pieces. This is particularly good news.
2. The genome statistics look good as well. The contig N50s is 39 megabases, which means that 50% of the genome is contained in pieces that are at least 39 million nucleotides long. In relative terms, this is excellent – and far beyond most genome assemblies that we produce.
3. Zach is now mapping the Dovetail Omni-C reads to the contigs and running a scaffolding algorithm to arrange the contigs into chromosomes. This is the more time-consuming step that is more art than science, and where Zach will spend a bit of time over the next month refining. So perhaps in the next 30 days, Zach should have draft chromosomes.

To annotate genes in this genome, Zach has also collected 15 diverse tissue types for RNA isolation and sequencing for the gene annotation. These tissues are moving into the Illumina RNA-seq queue right now.

Lastly, Zach recently had his 2nd year committee meeting. At that meeting, it was decided he is ready to move onto his qualifying exams in the next 4 months, which is a major milestone in the PhD process.

Seedling Bench Evaluation

Roger Walker reports applications to hold seedling bench evaluation classes at local shows were successfully completed electronically in 2022. Because that process worked smoothly, we'll follow the same procedure in 2023.

Emails with directions and a link to an online form were sent to both ADS reps and local society presidents on June 1; only one of the individuals needs to complete the form. The response has been particularly good. For clubs that have yet to respond, one of the club representatives should complete the online form by July 1.

Materials needed to hold the bench evaluation will be mailed prior to shows.

Social Media

Current stats:

Facebook followers: 5,459

Facebook group members: 8,076

Instagram followers: 9,997

Special Awards

Jerry Landerholm reports he has nothing to report at this time.

Technology Resource

Jess Becker was able to set up the Google Drive account for the ADS and established a basic folder structure for the group that we can add to as the rest of the board begins to utilize it. We will cover some of the basics and she is happy to set up calls with people who would like further training.

Jess assisted in setting up a donation platform for a giveaway that benefited the genome project.

Trial Garden

Brad did talk to Marilyn. She is not getting communication from all the trial garden directors. Most of them are now planted. Alberta is looking for a new location for the garden for next year.

Website

Sharon Swaney reports most of the recent website work was posting announcements, news, and updating information. She particularly enjoyed posting a feature story from Central States regarding their propagation project; thanks to CSDS for sharing. All societies are welcome to submit pictures and reports of their special events. Stories such as this really help keep the ADS website interesting.

Now that the tuber and plant sales are over, she will be requesting information for local shows. Show info will be submitted online.

Brad Freeman thanked Sharon for the fabulous job she does with the website.

The board meeting was temporarily adjourned at 9:43 pm CDT until Sunday, June 11 at 9:00 am. The planning meeting will begin Saturday at 8:30 am, with breakfast starting at 7:30 am.

President Brad Freeman re-opened the meeting at 9:07 am CDT Sunday, July 11, 2023

Mark Oldenkamp announced he received a message from Laura that Eleanor Shantz passed away. The board took a moment of silence for Wayne Shantz and family. He also suggested we take a picture of the board with the basket that Calvin Cook made, as baskets were Eleanor's forte.

OLD BUSINESS

Open Board Positions

Brad reported he has received some emails regarding interest in some of the open positions. We have gone back and forth as to whether to have or not have advertising in the *Bulletin*. In the member survey done in 2022, members did indicate they wanted to see pertinent advertising in the *Bulletin*. Jess Becker has recommended an individual that is interested so we will get together with that person. If additional pages are needed to accommodate advertising, that should not be an issue. Current advertisers are Lobaugh's Dahlias and Pau Pau Labels. The maximum number of pages is 56 pages, due to the saddle stitching. There was a suggestion of limiting the number of society reports as they take a substantial number of pages. The number of pages is now limited to 250-300 words. There is increased interest in local society reports. We might consider limiting them to 250 words or less.

It was a challenge with the CHD this year because we have kept everything in for the past few years, but it will go down next year. Another issue with the CHD is that the minimal size for the periodical permit is 6" x 9" and the CHD is smaller. This year it was mailed in a 6" x 9" envelope to manage that. We must have four mailings to take advantage of the periodical mailing, which is a significant saving, and the CHD is our fourth mailing, along with the three *Bulletins*. An easy solution is to print the CHD as half of a full page, 5 ½" x 8 ½" but that would not fit in a back pocket.

There was a suggestion to print the *Judges Roster* every other year. It is currently on the website with no contact information. **Alli Richards moved, and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to table the discussion on the advertising manager until we have a person willing to take on the advertising manager position. The motion passed with two opposed. Mark Oldenkamp moved, and Alli Richards seconded to table the discussion of the Judging Roster and take to the Executive Committee to figure out a solution. The motion passed with four opposed.**

NEW BUSINESS

Policy Regarding the ADS Logo

Brad stated there have been several requests from individuals to use the ADS logo on their personal social media page. We have a policy regarding the use of the logo for commercial use but nothing for personal use. Looking at other flower sites, they either didn't allow it to be copied. There were none that addressed it and no restrictions on logo use. Calvin Cook responded that he is a member of the Association of Cut Flower Growers, and they encourage their members to put their logos anywhere to advertise

they are members of the association. It is felt we need a disclaimer to release ADS from any liability. **Sharon Swaney moved, and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to develop a clear policy on logo use with a disclaimer and put it on the website and in the policy manual. The motion was amended by Harry Risetto that the ADS will permit ADS individual members, for personal purposes only, to use the logo according to the procedure on the website. The motion passed.** Mel, Harry, Brad, and Sharon will work on the disclaimer for the use of the logo.

Excess Bulletins

One idea that came up on Friday was to give surplus *Bulletins* to local societies to use for recruiting new members. It was felt there should be a limit and would be done on a first come, first served basis. It was felt to use the color *Bulletin* issues as they will be more attractive to prospective members. It was felt we should only use current overruns. **Harry Risetto moved, and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to have the ADS authorize the distribution of current overruns to local societies of the ADS *Bulletin* in accordance with a procedure to be established, with shipping paid by ADS. The motion passed with one opposed.**

Trifold Brochure

It was suggested to reinstate the trifold brochure that was done several years ago for recruitment of ADS members. We don't have the file, but it could likely be able to be recreated. Brad said he would do some research and see if we can move it forward. There was a suggestion to contact Jim Teeple, Mid-Island Dahlia Society, as he may have information about who may have the stuff that Steve Nowotarski had.

Dahlia Talk

Dahlia Talk from tubers to blooms is the monthly newsletter that Harry Risetto has been doing. He is no longer able to continue writing this newsletter. He has found a person or persons who are willing to take on this task. Harry and Sharon will help with the transition.

Growing Dahlias in Containers

Alan Fisher stated there was a lot of discussion on Saturday about growing dahlias in containers. He believes this falls under the garden committee but it is not his area of expertise. He would like to have someone who has experience in growing dahlias in containers to help him with this topic. There has been a request to reintroduce the "Container Dahlia of the Year."

Spring Planning Meeting ~ 2024

There was discussion of whether to continue these spring planning meetings in person and if so, where, and when to hold the 2024 meeting. It was noted that we can do it by Zoom as well as in person but that this year, there was only a limited number of people who participated by Zoom. It was also stated that the in-person meeting is important. We need to remember, "dahlias connect people." The Colorado Dahlia Society felt it was important and useful, especially since there are no other societies close to them. It was felt we need to make sure our board members understand this is an important part of our commitment as board members. Marcie Holt, the newest board member felt it was useful to connect people with their names and have a better connection with them.

There was a suggestion to hold it earlier in the year before the season starts. It is hard to find an optimum time as we are all busy throughout the year. It was suggested to hold the meeting in the southern part of the US. Marcie stated that she has thought about this but cannot make that decision. She felt if they couldn't do 2024, they could do 2025. She will bring it up to her board and let us know.

There will be a committee list published separately from the org chart. There had also been a suggestion about creating a board list with email addresses and phone numbers to be distributed to board members. We also want to gather in the lobby to take a group picture.

Brad Freeman thanked everyone for their work this weekend.

Charles Miehm moved, and Bob Schroeder seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am PDT.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder
ADS Secretary